



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁵ : C07D 257/02	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 93/10106 (43) International Publication Date: 27 May 1993 (27.05.93)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US92/09979 (22) International Filing Date: 18 November 1992 (18.11.92) (30) Priority data: 07/793,514 18 November 1991 (18.11.91) US 07/911,812 10 July 1992 (10.07.92) US 07/911,813 10 July 1992 (10.07.92) US (71) Applicants: E.I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY [US/US]; 1007 Market Street, Wilmington, DE 19898 (US). MERCK & CO., INC. [US/US]; 126 Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0900 (US). (72) Inventors: LO, Young, Sek ; 516 Stenning Drive, Hockessin, DE 19707 (US). ROSSANO, Lucius, Thomas ; 7 west Ridge Court, Newark, DE 19711 (US). LARSEN, Robert, D. ; 17 Sylvan Drive, Bridgewater, NJ 08807 (US). KING, Anthony, O. ; 8 Elmendorff Circle, Hillsborough, NJ 08876 (US).		(74) Agents: REINERT, Norbert, F. et al.; E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company, Legal/Patent Records Center, 1007 Market Street, Wilmington, DE 19898 (US). (81) Designated States: AU, CA, CS, FI, JP, KR, NO, PL, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, SE). Published <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i> BEST AVAILABLE COPY
(54) Title: TETRAZOLYLPHENYLBORONIC ACID INTERMEDIATES FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF AII RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS (57) Abstract Novel tetrazolylphenylboronic acids, methods for their preparation and methods for preparing biphenyltetrazole compounds which are angiotensin II receptor antagonists or which are useful intermediates to prepare angiotensin II receptor antagonists. An illustrative biphenyl tetrazole compound is 2-n-butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(tetrazol-5-yl)-1, 1'-biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-methanol, potassium salt.		

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TITLE

5 TETRAZOLYLPHENYLBORONIC ACID INTERMEDIATES
FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF AII RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S.
10 application Serial No. 07/793,514, filed November 18,
1991.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTIONField of the Invention

This invention is concerned with novel
15 tetrazolylphenylboronic acids and their derivatives,
methods for their preparation and their use in processes
for the preparation of angiotensin II receptor
antagonists which are effective agents for the treatment
of hypertension and congestive heart failure.

20 Background and Prior Art

The successful development of orally active
angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors, e.g.,
captopril, enalapril, etc., for the treatment of
hypertension and congestive heart failure has generated
25 great interest in designing new pharmacological blockers
of the renin-angiotensin system (RAS). As angiotensin
II (AII) is the primary effector molecule of the RAS
(Peach, J. J., Renin-Angiotensin System: Biochemistry and
Mechanism of Action, Physiol. Rev., 1977, 57:313-370), a
30 receptor antagonist of AII would provide a direct
approach to block the system. A number of peptide
analogs of AII have been reported to have AII receptor
antagonist properties; however, they also retain partial

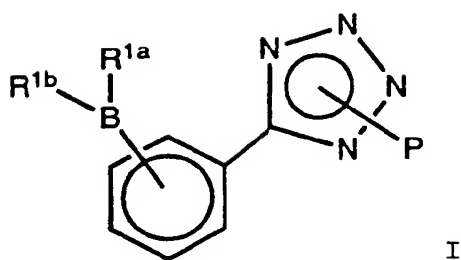
agonist properties and lack oral activities (Corvol, P.,
New Therapeutic Prospects of Renin-Angiotensin System
Inhibition, Clin. Exp. Hypertens.-Theory & Practice,
1989, AII (Suppl. 2), 463-470). More recently,
5 following the disclosure of a few nonpeptide AII
antagonist leads (U.S. 4,355,040), several series of AII
antagonists have been synthesized at E. I. du Pont
de Nemours and Company. Many of these compounds are
orally active with potent activities (Wong, P. C.,
10 et al., Functional Studies of Nonpeptide Angiotensin II
Receptor Subtype-Specific Ligands: DuP753 (AII-1) and
DP123177 (AII-2), J. Pharm. and Exp. Ther., 1990, 255
(2), pp 584 to 592 and references therein). These novel
compounds were disclosed in European Patent Application
15 0 324 377 published July 19, 1989.

Many of the AII receptor antagonists have the
biphenyl structure as a portion of the molecule.
Synthetic methods for the preparations of biphenyls were
reviewed recently (Bringmann, G., et al., Angew. Chem.
20 Int. Ed. Engl., 29, 1990, 977 to 991). Also Duncia,
et al. (U.S. 4,820,843 and J. Org. Chem., 1991, 56,
2395-2400) described alternate preparations of
biphenyls. The preparation, properties, and uses of
boronic acids and derivatives were summarized in Metal-
25 Organic Compounds, Advances in Chemistry Series, #23,
American Chemical Society, 1959. The ortho-lithiation
of 2-substituted 5-phenyl-tetrazoles was disclosed in
U.S. 5,039,814.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

30 The novel tetrazolylphenylboronic acid derivatives
prepared in accordance with this invention are
represented by formula I below

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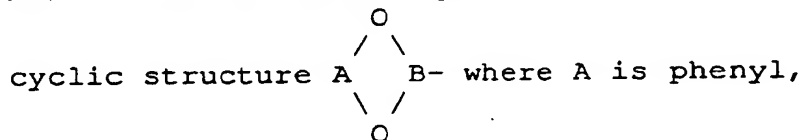


wherein:

P is triphenylmethyl, tertiary-butyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxymethyl, methylthiomethyl, phenyl C₁-C₄ alkoxymethyl, p-methoxybenzyl, 2,4,6-trimethylbenzyl, 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyl, tetrahydropyranyl, piperonyl, or benzenesulfonyl; and

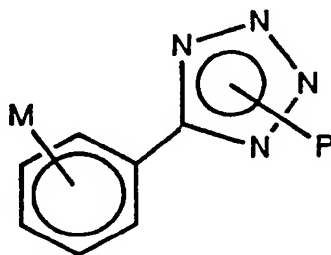
R^{1a} and R^{1b} are each independently chlorine, bromine, C₁-C₄ alkoxy or hydroxy; and

R^{1a} and R^{1b} can be taken together with B to form a



or (CH₂)_n, where n is 2-4.

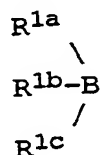
The novel compounds of formula I are prepared by reacting a compound represented by the formula



wherein:

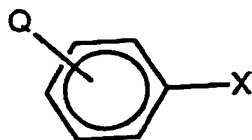
P is defined as for formula I above; and

M is a metal selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, or magnesium with a boron compound having the formula



wherein R^{1a} and R^{1b} are as defined for formula I above and R^{1c} is chlorine, bromine or C_{1-4} alkoxy.

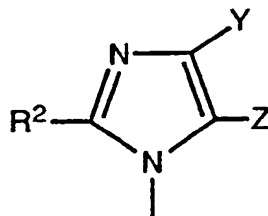
The novel tetrazolylphenylboronic acids or derivatives represented by formula I can be reacted further to provide more advanced intermediates that are precursors for AII receptor antagonists. Thus, the compounds of formula I are employed in a cross-coupling reaction with substituted phenyl-compounds represented by the formula



wherein

X is bromine, iodine, methanesulfonyloxy, toluenesulfonyloxy, fluorosulfonyloxy, or trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy; and Q is hydrogen, methyl, C_{1-4} alkyl, hydroxymethyl, triorganosilyloxymethyl, hydroxy C_{1-4} alkyl, formyl, C_{1-4} acyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy carbonyl, or W-L- wherein L is a single bond, $-(CH_2)_t$ where t is 1 to 4, $-(CH_2)_rO(CH_2)_r-$, $-(CH_2)_rS(O)_r-$ where r is 0 to 2 and W is a mono-, bi-, or multi-cyclic heteroaromatic group, which may be partially or

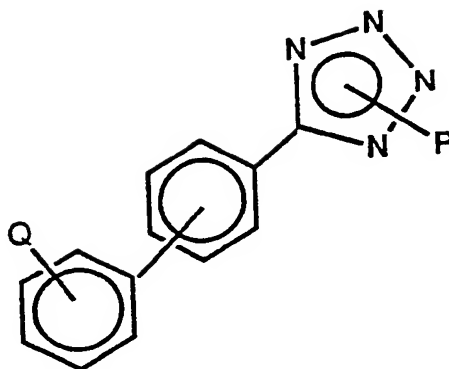
completely hydrogenated, in which each ring member of said group includes at least 1 carbon atom and from 1 to 5 heteroatoms. For purposes of the present invention, preferably W is a group of the following formula:



wherein R² is C₁-C₄ alkyl, Y is C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ perfluoroalkyl, halogen, phenyl unsubstituted or substituted with one or two substituents selected from C₁-C₄ alkyl, F, Cl, CF₃, C₁-C₄ alkoxyl, phenoxy, phenyl; phenyl C₁-C₄ alkyl and Z is hydroxymethyl, formyl, C₁-C₄ acyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxycarbonyl, carboxyl; and where Y and Z can be taken together to form a 5-, 6-, or 7-membered ring containing 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, sulfur, or oxygen.

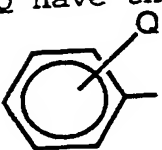
The products of this cross-coupling reaction are compounds of the formula

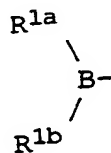
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II

wherein P and Q have the meanings given above and the

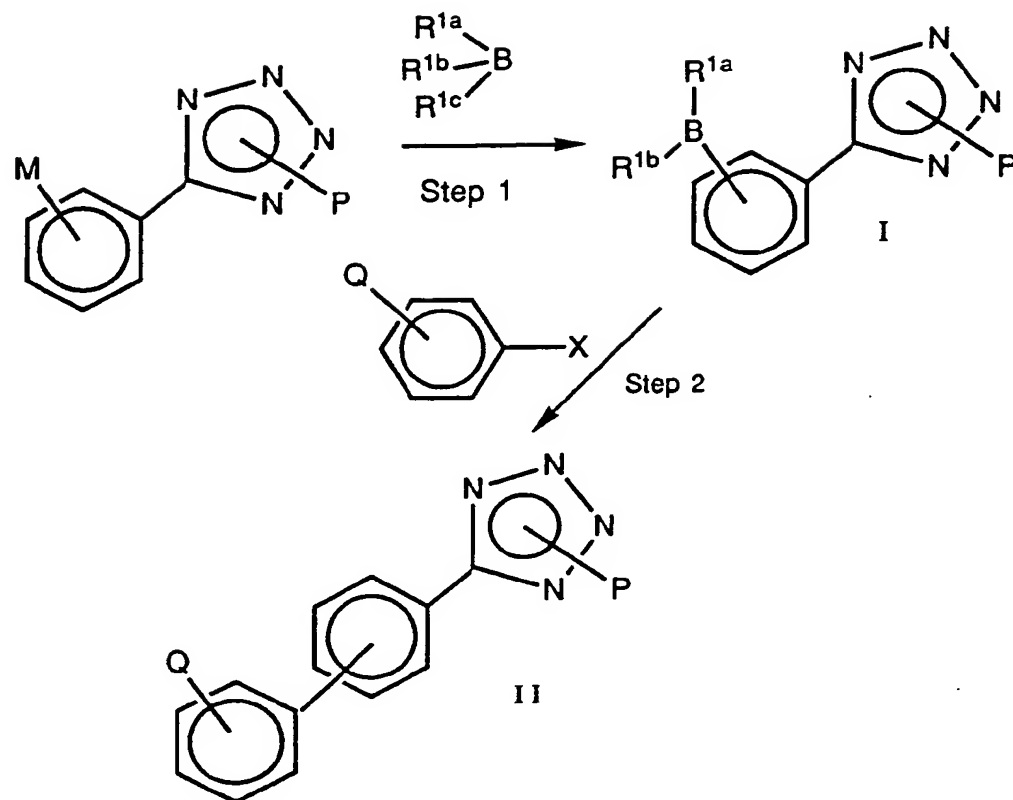
position of  relative to the tetrazole is the same as the position of



relative to the tetrazole in formula I.

5

Thus an overall reaction scheme contemplated as a part of this invention can be presented by the following



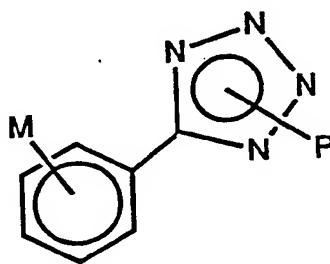
wherein M, X, P, R^{1a}, R^{1b}, R^{1c} and Q have the meanings given above.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide novel and efficient processes for the preparation of novel tetrazolylphenylboronic acids and derivatives, and the preparation of more advanced intermediates of AII receptor antagonists in subsequent reactions.

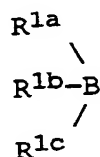
Additional objects and advantages of the present invention will be apparent to one skilled in the art and still others will become apparent from the following description for carrying out the present invention and the appended claims.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In step 1 of the overall reaction scheme shown above the carbanion having the formula



and the boron compound having the formula



5 are reacted together.

The meanings given above for P, the protecting group for the tetrazole substituent in formula I are those considered the most preferred for purposes of the invention. However, since tetrazoles are isosteric with
10 carboxyl groups and the protecting group is blocking a nitrogen, many of the protecting groups used for the carboxyl group and the amine group also are useful for the tetrazole group. Therefore, one skilled in the art may refer to the text "Protective Groups in Organic
15 Synthesis" (in particular, Chapters 5 and 7),
Theodora W. Green, John Wiley & Sons, 1981, for the selection of other possible protecting groups that could be utilized for purposes of the present invention. Applicants hereby incorporate by reference the

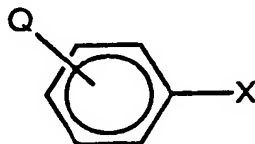
disclosure of this text for a more complete definition of the protecting group P.

The reaction is conducted in an aprotic solvent, for example, tetrahydrofuran, diethyl ether, benzene, etc., at a temperature ranging from -70°C to 25°C, preferably -30°C to 0°C. Due to the moisture-sensitive nature of the reactants, the reaction is conducted in an inert atmosphere such as nitrogen.

The novel tetrazolylphenylboronic acid (R^{1a} and $R^{1b}=\text{OH}$) can be isolated from the reaction mixture by the addition of isopropanol-water or water and maintaining the pH in the range of 3 to 10, with mineral acids such as phosphoric acid, carboxylic acids such as acetic acid, ammonium salts such as ammonium chloride, or carbonic acid salts such as sodium carbonate. The novel tetrazolylphenylboronic acid derivatives (R^{1a} and $R^{1b}=\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ alkoxy, Cl, Br) can be used in step 2 without isolation.

The novel tetrazolylphenylboronic acid (R^{1a} and $R^{1b}=\text{OH}$) can be prepared from 5-phenyltetrazole, which is readily available commercially, in a one-pot procedure as illustrated in Part B of Example 1.

In step 2, a novel compound prepared in step 1 is reacted with an electrophile having the formula



in a solvent in the presence of a metal catalyst and a base for one to thirty hours at a temperature ranging from room temperature to 150°C, preferably 60°C to 90°C. The coupling solvents for the reaction can be selected

from a variety of known process solvents. Illustrative of the coupling solvents that can be utilized either singly or in combinations are benzene, toluene, ethyl ether, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, acetonitrile, dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide, ethanol, methanol, 5 propanol, water, 2-methyltetrahydrofuran or diethoxymethane. Preferably in combination with water.

The metal catalyst is a complex of nickel, palladium, or platinum, preferably a palladium complex such as tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium, 10 bis(dibenzylideneacetone)palladium, tris(dibenzylideneacetone)dipalladium, a phosphinated palladium II complex selected from the group consisting of: bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium chloride, 15 bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium bromide, bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium acetate, bis(triisopropylphosphite)palladium chloride, bis(triisopropylphosphite)palladium bromide, bis(triisopropylphosphite)palladium acetate, 20 [1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane]palladium chloride, [1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane]palladium bromide, [1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane]palladium acetate, [1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane]palladium chloride, [1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane]palladium bromide, 25 [1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane]palladium acetate, [1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane]palladium chloride, [1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane]palladium bromide and [1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane]palladium acetate.

The active catalyst may be prepared in advance or 30 generated in the reaction mixture. For example, addition of tris(dibenzylideneacetone)dipalladium to a reaction mixture containing triphenylphosphine in a

catalyst forming solvent generates the active triphenylphosphine palladium complex.

The active catalyst can also be prepared from a Pd(II) salt such as palladium chloride, palladium bromide or palladium acetate with triarylphosphine, typically triphenylphosphine under the action of reducing agents such as dialkylzinc, alkylzinc halide, dialkylmagnesium, alkylmagnesium halide, trialkylaluminum, dialkylaluminum hydride, sodium borohydride, hydrazine, or arylboronic acid in the presence of a catalyst forming solvent. The preferable reducing agent is diethylzinc.

The catalyst forming solvents for the reaction can be selected from a variety of known process solvents. Illustrative of the catalyst forming solvents that can be utilized either singly or in combinations are benzene, toluene, ethyl ether, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, acetonitrile, dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide, dimethylsulfoxide, ethanol, methanol, propanol, water, 2-methyltetrahydrofuran or diethoxymethane. Preferably the catalyst forming solvent is tetrahydrofuran or toluene.

There are a variety of bases that can be used for effecting the reaction. Illustrative examples are organic tertiary non-nucleophilic bases such as triethylamine or diisopropylethylamine, inorganic bases such as potassium carbonate, sodium carbonate, cesium carbonate, thallium carbonate, potassium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide, thallium hydroxide, or the alkoxides of these alkali metals. When an inorganic base insoluble in the organic solvent is used, dissolution in water may be necessary; the use of a phase-transfer catalyst such as tetra-n-butylammonium bromide or crown

ether also facilitate the reaction. Organic solvent soluble bases such as tetra-n-butylammonium carbonate or tetra-n-butylammonium hydroxide, benzyltrimethylammonium carbonate, benzyltrimethylammonium methyl carbonate, 5 benzyltrimethylammonium methoxide or benzyltrimethylammonium hydroxide, or other basic tetraalkylammonium compounds are particularly useful in certain cases. The organic solvent soluble base maybe prepared in advance or generated in the reaction mixture. For example, the preparation of 10 benzyltrimethylammonium carbonate in which benzyltrimethylammonium hydroxide solution is reacted with ammonium carbonate.

The purification of the product of Step 2, formula 15 II, maybe aided by the addition of trialkylphosphine in the crystallization of the compound of formula II or by the addition of trialkylphosphine during the recrystallization process. The purification is preferably aided by the presence of tributylphosphine.

20 Step 2 is such a general reaction that it tolerates a variety of functional groups as illustrated by literature examples (V. Snieckus, Chem. Rev., 1990, 90, 879-933 and references therein). Therefore, when Q has the previously given meaning W-L-, W may be any of 25 various heterocyclic systems, including among others, imidazoles, triazolinones, quinazolinones, imidazolones, pyrazoles, pyrimidinones, or pyrroles. Accordingly, many of the AII receptor antagonists disclosed recently can be synthesized by the process disclosed in this 30 invention. Applicants hereby incorporate by reference the disclosures of the following European Patent Office Applications for a more complete definition of the scope of heterocyclic systems that may be included as W in

step 2 of the general reaction of this invention:

EP 419048, EP 424317, EP 426021, EP 420237, EP 425921,
EP 430300, EP 429257, EP 430709, EP 425211, EP 427463,
EP 432737, EP 400974, EP 411766, EP 407342, EP 411507,
5 EP 412848, EP 401030, EP 407102, EP 409332, EP 392317,
EP 399731, EP 399732, EP 400835, EP 415886, EP 412594,
EP 403158, EP 403159.

The invention is more fully exemplified and taught
by the following examples.

10

EXAMPLE 1

2-(2'-Triphenylmethyl-2'H-tetrazol-
5'-yl)phenylboronic acid

Part A

15 To a 22 L flask under nitrogen purge was charged
8.25 L acetone, followed by 1.1 kg 5-phenyltetrazole.
Triethylamine (800 g) was added in such a rate that the
temperature was maintained below 35°C with some cooling.
Solid trityl chloride was charged to this light
20 suspension in five 440 g portions. The temperature was
maintained below 35°C. An additional 1.38 L acetone was
added to the reaction which was then maintained at 25°
to 30°C with stirring for 2 hours. Water (2.2 L) was
added and the mixture was chilled to 15° to 20°C. The
25 solid was collected by filtration; the filter cake was
rinsed with 1.65 L 50% acetone-water followed by excess
amount of water. The wet cake was re-slurried in 8 L
acetone and 8 L of water was added slowly. The
suspension was stirred for 1 hour then filtered. The
30 filter cake was rinsed with 3 to 5 L of water. The
white solid was dried in a vacuum oven at 40-45°C to a
constant weight of 3.0 kg, mp 158-160°C.

To a dry 12 L flask under nitrogen purge was charged 3.19 L of dry tetrahydrofuran (THF). With agitation, 398 g of 5-phenyl-2-trityl-tetrazole prepared above was charged. The system was evacuated and released to nitrogen three times and then cooled to -20°C. A solution of butyl lithium in heptane (1.6 M, 477 g) was then added to the reaction mixture while maintaining the temperature at -15°C to -20°C. The resultant deep red solution was stirred at -5°C for 1 hour during which time the lithium salt crystallized out. The solid suspension was cooled to -25°C again and 333 g triisopropylborate was charged at a temperature range of -20° to -25°C. After the addition, the mixture was allowed to warm to 20°C without heating. About 2.5 L of solvent was removed by vacuum distillation. The pot temperature was kept below 40°C. To the mixture was then added 2.66 L of 3% acetic acid in water and the resultant suspension was stirred for 1 hour. The white solid was collected by filtration. The solid cake was rinsed with 1.5 L of 20% tetrahydrofuran in water, followed by 3 L of water. The solid was dried under vacuum at room temperature to a constant weight of 502.3 g, mp 142-146°C (dec.).

25 Part B

A preferred alternative procedure for preparing the title compound of this Example 1 is by means of the following procedure.

5-Phenyltetrazole (14.6 g, 100 mmol) was suspended in dry THF (120 ml) under nitrogen and triethylamine (14.8 ml, 105 mmol) was added while maintaining the temperature at 15 to 20°C. Triphenylchloromethane (29.3 g, 105 mmol) in dry THF (60 ml) was then added

slowly to the mixture at $\leq 25^{\circ}\text{C}$. After the addition was complete the mixture was warmed to 35°C for 1 hour and then cooled at 0°C for 1 hour. The precipitated triethylammonium chloride was filtered and the filtrate was degassed via vacuum/nitrogen purges (3X). The degassed solution was cooled to -20°C and butyllithium (1.6 M in hexanes) was added until a pink color persisted for 2 minutes. The pink color indicated that the solution was completely dry. More butyllithium (65.6 ml, 105 mmol) was charged at $\leq -15^{\circ}\text{C}$. The deep red heterogeneous mixture was aged at -20 to -15°C for 1 hour and triisopropylborate (30.6 ml, 130 mmol) was added while maintaining the temperature at $\leq -15^{\circ}\text{C}$.

The deep red solution was aged at -15°C for 30 minutes and then warmed to 10°C over 1 hour. The mixture volume was reduced by ~200 ml in vacuo at $\leq 15^{\circ}\text{C}$ at which time $< 5\%$ of hexanes (vs THF) remained. The residue was diluted with THF to a total volume of 160 ml and isopropanol (60 ml) was added. The solution was cooled to 0°C and saturated aqueous ammonium chloride (40 ml, 200 mmol) was charged within 15 minutes. The mixture was aged at 20 to 25°C for 30 minutes and water (100 ml) was added over 30 to 45 minutes. After aging the mixture for 1 hour, the crystallized product was collected by filtration and washed with cold 80% aqueous isopropanol. The filter cake was air dried on the filter to give 69.7 g (86% yield, corrected for 82% purity) of product as the THF mono-solvate.

EXAMPLE 23-(2'-Triphenylmethyl-2'H-tetrazol-5'-yl)phenylboronic acid

m-Bromobenzonitrile (0.102 m) was dissolved in 130 mL of toluene and the solution was heated to boiling and 30 mL of solvent was distilled under nitrogen purge. After cooling down to room temperature, tri-n-butyl tin chloride (0.102 m) and sodium azide (0.1 m) were charged to the reaction and the mixture was heated at reflux for 18 hours. To the cooled down mixture was added 60 mL toluene and a solution of sodium hydroxide (0.12 m) in 12 mL water. After stirring at room temperature for 5 minutes, triphenylmethyl chloride (0.08 m) was added as a solid and the mixture was stirred for 1 hour. Another charge of triphenylmethyl chloride (0.02 m) was then made and the agitation continued for another hour. The reaction was worked up by addition of 50 mL water, basified with a small amount of sodium hydroxide. The layers were separated and the organic layer was extracted once with 50 mL water, followed by 50 mL saturated sodium chloride solution. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered through Celite and the filtrate was concentrated on a rotary evaporator. The residual oil was triturated with 200 mL of n-heptane and chilled in an ice bath. The solid was collected by filtration and rinsed with cold n-heptane. The filter cake was dried in a vacuum oven at 40° to 50°C until constant weight.

The 2-triphenylmethyl-5-(m-bromophenyl)-2H-tetrazole obtained as described above is treated with n-butyllithium in tetrahydrofuran to generate the lithium salt of the carbanion, 2-triphenylmethyl-5-(m-lithiophenyl)-2H-tetrazole, which in turn is reacted with tri-

isopropylborate to produce the title compound according to the procedure of Part A of Example 1.

EXAMPLE 3

5 4-(2'-Triphenylmethyl-2H-
 tetrazol-5'-yl)phenylboronic acid

Starting with p-bromobenzonitrile and using the procedure of Example 2, the title compound is prepared.

EXAMPLE 4

10 5-(4'-Methyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-
 yl)-2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazole

2-(2'-Triphenylmethyl-2'H-tetrazol-5'-
yl)phenylboronic acid (Example 1, 0.02 m = 9 g), p-
15 bromotoluene (0.022 m = 3.84 g), sodium carbonate
(0.04 m = 4.24 g), toluene (70 mL), and water (20 mL)
were charged to a reaction flask. The system was
evacuated and released to nitrogen three times and then
maintained under a nitrogen atmosphere.
20 Tetrakis(triphenylphosphine) palladium (0.6 mm = 0.693 g)
was charged to the reaction mixture which was then
heated at 80°C for 10 hours. The reaction was cooled to
room temperature. The organic layer was separated and
extracted with 50 mL of water. The organic layer was
25 dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and concentrated.
The residue was crystallized from toluene-n-heptane to
give 6.76 g (71% yield) of title compound, mp 164-166°C
(dec.).

EXAMPLE 55-(4'-Bromomethyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazole

A mixture of 5-(4'-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-2-triphenyl-2H-tetrazole (0.195 m = 93.5 g), N-bromosuccinimide (0.215 m = 38.2 g), VAZO®52 (2.37 g), and 563 g of methylene chloride was stirred and refluxed for 7 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and washed once with 375 mL of water, followed by a solution of 18.8 g of sodium bicarbonate in 357 mL of water. The methylene chloride solution was concentrated and the residue was triturated with 591 g of heptanes. The slurry was chilled to 0°C before filtration. The solution was rinsed with 1:6 methylene chloride/heptanes and then dried in a vacuum oven at 50°C to give 102.7 g of title compound.

EXAMPLE 6

20 2-n-Butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-carboxaldehyde

A mixture of 5-(4'-bromomethyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazole (0.102 m = 63.1 g), 2-n-butyl-4-chloro-1H-imidazole-5-carboxaldehyde (0.113 m = 21.1 g) and anhydrous potassium carbonate (0.135 m = 18.6 g) in 251 g of N,N-dimethylacetamide was stirred at 0-5°C for 8 hours and the temperature of the reaction was raised to 25°C for an additional 4 hours. Normally the product of this step was not isolated but reduced with sodium borohydride to give 2-n-butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-methanol. The title compound can be isolated by extraction into toluene from

aqueous N,N-dimethylacetamide, concentration of the toluene solution, and crystallization from ethyl acetate or ethanol, mp 145-147°C (dec.).

5

EXAMPLE 7

2-n-Butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-
2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-
1H-imidazole-5-methanol

To the reaction mixture of Example 6 was added
10 sodium borohydride (0.1 m = 3.9 g) along with some water
(8.7 mL). After stirring at room temperature for 3
hours, the reaction mixture was slowly added to excess
amount of water (540 ml) with stirring. The wet filter
cake was washed with 270 mL of water, then crystallized
15 from 355 g of butyl chloride to give a crude product.
Recrystallization from 300 g of ethyl acetate and dried
in a vacuum oven to give 49.3 g of pure title compound
in 72% yield for two steps, mp 168-169°C.

20

EXAMPLE 8

2-n-Butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-
4-yl)methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-methanol, potassium salt

A mixture of 2-n-butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(2-
triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-
25 yl)methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-methanol (5.3 kg) in 25 L
tetrahydrofuran (THF) was treated with 8.38 kg of 12%
aqueous hydrochloric acid added at 23°C over an hour.
The mixture was stirred at 25°C for 12 hours. A 30%
sodium hydroxide solution was added at 22°C over a 2-
30 hour period until the pH was 12.5. The THF was
distilled off by heating but the volume was replenished
by addition of water. Distillation was terminated when
the head temperature reached 94°C. The mixture was

cooled to room temperature and the precipitated triphenylmethanol was removed by filtration and rinsed with water. The filtrate and rinse was extracted twice with 4 L portions of toluene. Ethyl acetate (9.8 L) was then added to the aqueous solution and 36% aqueous hydrochloric acid was added at 21-24°C until the pH was 3.8. The mixture was cooled to 10°C and held for 1 hour. The solid was collected by filtration and washed with 50% aqueous methanol, followed by 10 L ethyl acetate, then dried at 50°C in a vacuum oven to give 2.8 kg white solid, mp 182-183°C (dec.). A 1.92 kg portion of this solid in 5.8 kg of isopropanol was treated with a mixture of 0.363 kg of potassium hydroxide in 185 mL water and 3.62 L isopropanol at 39-40°C over a 4-hour period until the pH was 10. The solution was clarified by filtration. Approximately 67% of the water present was removed by distillation (monitored by Karl Fischer titration of the distillate). Heptanes (4.5 L) was added and the mixture was cooled to room temperature. The product was collected by filtration and rinsed with heptanes. It was dried at 50°C in a vacuum oven to yield 1.82 kg of white solid, mp 267-269°C (dec.).

EXAMPLE 9

25 5-(4'-Hydroxymethyl-1,1'-biphenyl-
 2-yl)-2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazole

A mixture of 2-(2'-triphenylmethyl-2'H-tetrazol-5'-yl)phenylboronic acid (0.03 m = 13.5 g), p-bromobenzyl alcohol (0.034 m = 6.2 g) tetrabutylammonium carbonate (67% pure, 34 g), and 120 mL toluene in a reaction flask was evacuated and released to nitrogen three times and maintained under a nitrogen atmosphere. To the mixture was charged tetrakis(triphenylphosphine) palladium

(0.9 mm = 1.04 g). The reaction was heated at 75° to 81°C for 5 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and extracted three times with 80 mL portions of water. The organic layer was clarified by
5 filtering through a Celite cake and then concentrated to a brown oil. Crystallization from about 30 mL of acetone yielded a solid which was collected and rinsed with 50% aqueous acetone. The solid was dried under a stream of nitrogen to a constant weight of 9.08 g (61.5%
10 yield), mp 168-170°C.

EXAMPLE 10

5-(4'-Methanesulfonyloxymethyl-1,1'-
biphenyl-2-yl)-2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazole

15 To a mixture of 5-(4'-hydroxymethyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazole (0.01 m = 4.90 g) and potassium carbonate (0.05 m = 6.90 g) stirred in 50 mL N,N-dimethylacetamide chilled at 1°C was added a total of 3.34 g (0.024 m) of methanesulfonyl chloride in
20 portions over 6 hours. The progress of the reaction was monitored by thin layer chromatography or HPLC. The title compound was formed in better than 90% in the mixture which was used in the next example.

EXAMPLE 11

25 2-n-Butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-
1H-imidazole-5-methanol

To the reaction mixture of Example 10 was added 2-
30 n-butyl-4-chloro-1H-imidazole-5-carboxaldehyde (0.01 m = 1.86 g). The reaction was stirred overnight at room temperature. Water (0.87 mL) was added dropwise followed by sodium borohydride pellets (0.37 g). After

stirring for 5 hours, the reaction mixture was added slowly to 100 mL water containing 3 mL acetone. The temperature was maintained at about 25°C during the addition. The resultant slurry was stirred for an additional 45 minutes, then filtered. The solid was rinsed with two 50 mL portions of water. The wet cake was recrystallized first from 50 mL of n-butyl chloride, then from 30 mL of ethyl acetate to give 1.95 g title compound in 28% overall yield; mp 168-169°C.

10

EXAMPLE 12

5-(4'-Formyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-
2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazole

2-(2'-Triphenylmethyl-2'H-tetrazol-5'-yl)phenyl
boronic acid (5 mm = 2.16 g), p-bromobenzaldehyde
(6 mm = 1.12 g), potassium carbonate (10 mm = 1.38 g),
tetrabutylammonium bromide (0.46 mm = 0.15 g), toluene
(20 mL), and water (1.2 mL) were charged to the reaction
flask. The system was evacuated and released to
nitrogen three times and then maintained under a
nitrogen atmosphere. Tetrakis(triphenyl)phosphine
palladium (0.15 mm = 0.18 g) was charged to the reaction
mixture which was then heated at 70 to 80°C for 5.5
hours. The cool reaction mixture was filtered to remove
some solid; rinsed with toluene and water. The filtrate
and rinsings were combined. The organic layer was
separated and washed with 10 mL water, then dried over
magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated. The
residue was triturated with a mixture of 8 mL toluene
and 5 mL n-heptane. The solid was collected by
filtration, rinsed with 1:1 toluene/n-heptane, and dried
under vacuum is 1.18 g (48% yield), mp 147-149°C.

EXAMPLE 13

5-(4'-Hydroxymethyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-2-
triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazole

5-(4'-formyl-1,1'-biphenyl-2-yl)-2-triphenylmethyl-
2H-tetrazole was dissolved in N,N-dimethylacetamide and
some water and reduced by sodium borohydride. The
reaction mixture was then poured into water slowly to
precipitate the title compound which is further purified
by recrystallizations as described in Example 11.

10

EXAMPLE 14

2-n-Butyl-4-chloro-1-p-bromobenzyl-
1H-imidazole-5-carboxaldehyde

A mixture of 2-n-butyl-4-chloro-1H-imidazole-5-
carboxaldehyde (0.6 m = 111.9 g), p-bromobenzylbromide
(0.6 m = 153.02 g), anhydrous potassium carbonate (0.75
m = 103.5 g), and dry N,N-dimethylacetamide (900 mL) was
stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. The mixture
was diluted with 1.2 L of toluene and 1.8 L of water.
After mixing for half an hour, the layers were
separated. The organic layer was washed two more times
with 900 mL portions of water, then dried over magnesium
sulfate. The drying agent was removed by filtration and
the filtrate was concentrated. The residual oil was
pumped overnight to a weight of 191.71 g (89.9% yield).

25

EXAMPLE 15

2-n-Butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-
2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-
1H-imidazole-5-methanol

30

A mixture of the oil obtained in Example 14
(0.05 m = 17.8 g), 2-(2'-triphenylmethyl-2'H-tetrazol-
5'-yl)phenylboronic acid (0.065 m = 29.3 g), potassium

- carbonate (0.1 m = 13.8 g), water (11 mL), tetra-n-butylammonium bromide (0.005 m = 1.61 g), triphenylphosphine (0.006 m = 1.58 g) in 200 mL toluene was evacuated and released to nitrogen three times and maintained under a nitrogen atmosphere. Tris(dibenzylideneacetone)dipalladium (1.5 mm = 0.64 g) was charged and the reaction was heated at 75° to 81°C for 12 hours. The cooled reaction mixture was filtered to remove some grey solid. The toluene layer was stirred with sodium borohydride (0.1 m = 3.8 g), tetra-n-butyl ammonium bromide (0.005 m = 1.6 g), and 30 mL water for six hours. The mixture was filtered through a Celite cake to remove the black tarry precipitate. The organic layer was washed once with 100 mL water then stirred with a solution of thiourea (7 g) in 100 mL water for 1 hour. Some brown sludge (palladium complex) was formed and precipitated out. The mixture was filtered and the organic layer was separated then treated with a fresh solution of thiourea (7 g) in 100 mL water for 1 hour. The organic layer was separated, washed once with 100 mL water and once with 100 mL saturated sodium chloride solution. The organic layer was stirred with 30 g magnesium sulfate and 15 g charcoal for 1 hour. The solid was removed by filtering through a Celite cake. The filtrate was concentrated to an oil and crystallized from 35 mL of isobutyl acetate in an ice bath. The solid was collected and dried under a stream of nitrogen to a constant weight of 17.17 g.

EXAMPLE 16

2-n-Propyl-4-ethyl-1-[(2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-
biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-carboxaldehyde

5 Starting with 2-n-propyl-4-ethyl-1H-imidazole-5-carboxaldehyde and using the procedure of Example 14 and then the procedure of Example 15, the title compound is prepared.

EXAMPLE 17

2-n-Propyl-4-pentafluoroethyl-1-[(2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-
4-yl)methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-carbomethoxylate

10 Starting with 2-n-propyl-4-pentafluoroethyl-1H-imidazole-5-carbomethoxylate and using the procedure of Example 14 and then the procedure of Example 15, the title compound is prepared.

EXAMPLE 18

20 2-n-butyl-4-chloro-5-hydroxymethyl-
1-p-bromobenzyl-1H-imidazole

A suspension of 2-n-butyl-4-chloro-1H-imidazole-5-carboxyaldehyde (146.9 g, 0.78 mol) and p-bromobenzyl bromide (195 g, 0.78 mol) in dimethylacetamide (1.0 L)
25 was cooled to 0°C and potassium carbonate (138 g, 1.0 mol) was added. The mixture was aged for three hours at 0°C and then at 20 to 25°C for two to four hours. The mixture was diluted with dimethylacetamide (0.15 L) and then filtered. The filter cake was washed with
30 dimethylacetamide (50 ml). The combined filtrates were diluted with methanol (0.66 L) and cooled to 0°C. Sodium borohydride (37.8 g, 1.0 mol) was added as a solid and the mixture was aged with stirring at 20 to

25°C for two hours. Water (1.56 L) was added slowly to crystallize the product. The filter cake was washed carefully with water (1.56 L) and dried in vacuo at 60°C. The yield was 255 g (91%, corrected for 99.5% purity).

EXAMPLE 19

2-n-Butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-
2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-
1H-imidazole-5-methanol

10

All operations described for this example were performed under an atmosphere of nitrogen.

Catalyst preparation

15

To a mixture of palladium chloride (10.6 mg) and triphenylphosphine (31.5 mg) was added anhydrous toluene (4 ml). The heterogeneous solution was degassed by vacuum/nitrogen purges (3X) and then heated to 60°C for 30 minutes. Triisopropylphosphite (30.0 microliters) was added and the mixture was further heated at 60°C until a homogeneous solution was obtained (1 to 2 hours).

20

Coupling

25

2-(2'-triphenylmethyl-2'H-tetrazol-5'-yl)phenylboronic acid (1.3 g) was suspended in toluene (4 ml) and water (100 microliters) was added. The heterogeneous mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 minutes and potassium carbonate (0.7 g) was then charged followed by the titled product of Example 18 (0.7 g). The mixture was degassed via vacuum/nitrogen purges (3X) and the above catalyst solution was added. The temperature of the mixture was raised to 80 to 85°C

30

and kept at this temperature for 2 hours. After the mixture was cooled to 40°C, water (5 ml) was added. The aqueous layer was removed and the organic phase was concentrated in vacuo at $\leq 30^\circ\text{C}$ to a volume of ~3 ml.

5 Methyl i-butyl ketone (MIBK) (8 ml) was added and the mixture was again reduced to ~3 ml. The mixture was diluted with MIBK (4 ml) and water (36 microliters), heated to 60°C and then cooled and aged first at 0°C for 30 minutes followed by aging at -10°C with stirring for 10 2 hours. The crystallized product was collected by filtration as a mono-MIBK solvate (1.44 g, 94% yield). The crude product was dissolved in MIBK (2.1 ml) at 80°C, the solution was filtered hot at 80°C and water (33.8 microliters) was added. The solution was cooled 15 slowly to 0°C over 1 hour and aged at 0°C for 30 minutes followed by aging at -10°C with stirring for 2 hours. After filtration 1.38 g of the mono-MIBK solvated product was recovered (90% yield).

20

EXAMPLE 20

2-n-Butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-
2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-
1H-imidazole-5-methanol

25 All operations described for this example were performed under an atmosphere of nitrogen.

Catalyst Preparation

The following two procedures can be used with 30 similar results.

Procedure A

To a mixture of palladium chloride (354 mg) and triphenylphosphine (2.1 g) was added anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (THF) (75 ml). The heterogeneous solution was degassed by vacuum/nitrogen purges (3X) and then refluxed for 4 hours.

Most of the palladium chloride changed over to bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium chloride during the reflux. Some insoluble black solids were still observed at this point.

The heterogeneous THF solution containing the phosphinated palladium chloride was cooled to room temperature and diethylzinc (4.0 ml, 1 M in hexanes) was added. Except for a small amount of black solids, the solution essentially became homogeneous after stirring for 30 minutes. This activated catalyst solution was used in the coupling step described below.

Procedure B

To a mixture of palladium chloride (354 mg) and triphenylphosphine (2.1 g) was added anhydrous THF (75 ml). The heterogeneous solution was degassed by vacuum/nitrogen purges (3X) and then triisopropylphosphite (0.99 ml) was added. The mixture was maintained at room temperature until all the palladium chloride was dissolved and a homogeneous solution was obtained (0.5 to 1 hour).

Benzyltrimethylammonium Carbonate Preparation

To a benzyltrimethylammonium hydroxide solution (42 g) was added ammonium carbonate (5.0 g) and the reaction was aged with stirring until all of the ammonium carbonate dissolved (~30 minutes). The

methanol solvent was removed in vacuo and further displaced with THF (3 X 10 ml). The residual carbonate was dissolved in THF (90 ml).

5 Coupling Step

To the above carbonate solution was charged the titled product of Example 1 (24.0 g) and the titled product of Example 18 (14.2 g). The mixture was degassed by vacuum/nitrogen purges (5X), followed by the addition of the catalyst solution prepared above. The reaction mixture was heated to reflux, aged until completion (8 to 10 hours), cooled to room temperature and filtered through a pad of Celite. The Celite was further washed with THF (3 X 10 ml). The yield was 89 wt %.

EXAMPLE 21

2-n-Butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-methanol, potassium salt

20 2-n-butyl-4-chloro-1-[2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-methanol (5.0 g, 6.54 mmol) was dissolved in THF (60 ml). 4 N Sulfuric acid (38 ml, 152 mmol) was added with stirring at 25 to 30°C. The solution was aged overnight at 20 to 25°C and isopropyl acetate (60 ml) was then added. The layers were separated and the organic phase was back-extracted with 4 N sulfuric acid (19 ml). The aqueous layers were combined and the organic solvents (THF and isopropyl acetate) were removed in vacuo. The remaining aqueous solution was diluted with THF (10% of THF by volume) and passed through a pad of Ecosorb S 402 (5.0 g). The pad was rinsed with 10% THF in 4 N sulfuric acid. The filtrate

was then passed through a column of SP-207 (60 ml) and the column was washed with water (180 ml) followed with 1 M K_2HPO_4 (180 ml). The pH of the eluent was monitored to ensure complete potassium salt formation. Further washing with water (180 ml) removed the sulfate and excess phosphate. The potassium salt product was eluted with 20% aqueous THF. Concentration of the aqueous solution and dilution with isopropanol gave crystalline product. Alternatively, the product was isolated by spray drying. The yield was 2.56 g (85%).

EXAMPLE 22

1-Bromo-4-(2'-n-butyl-4'-chloro-5'-hydroxymethylimidazole-1'H-1'-yl)methylbenzene

15 I. Alkylation

To 200 mL of dimethyl acetamide under a nitrogen atmosphere in a 1-liter 3-necked flask fitted with a mechanical stirrer and thermocouple is charged 30.8 g (0.163 mol) of 2-n-butyl-4-chloro-5-formyl-1H-imidazole 1 and 43.7 g (0.16 mol) of 4-bromobenzyl bromide 2. The solution is cooled to -5°C followed by portionwise addition of 27.1 g (0.19 mol) of powdered potassium carbonate over 10 min with rapid stirring while keeping the reaction temperature between -5-0°C. The slurry is stirred at -5°C for 2 h and room temperature for 2 h or until the alkylation is complete.

II. Filtration

The slurry is filtered and the cake is washed with an anhydrous mixture of dimethyl acetamide (30 mL) and methanol (130 mL). The filtrate is used directly in the next step.

III. Reduction

Under a nitrogen atmosphere, 1.85 g (48 mmol) of powdered sodium borohydride is added portionwise over 0.5 h to the filtrate at -15°C in a 5-liter 3-necked flask with a mechanical stirrer and a thermocouple, keeping the reaction temperature between -15 to -5°C. The mixture is warmed to room temperature and aged for 1 h or until the reduction is complete.

IV. Crystallization

Acetic acid (2.74 mL) is added dropwise over 10 min with rapid stirring while keeping the temperature of the mixture at 20-25°C. This mixture is aged at room temperature for 0.5 h, followed by the addition of water (160 mL) dropwise over 1 h. The solution is seeded with imidazole 4 and followed by the addition of water (160 mL) dropwise over 1 h. The product precipitated within 0.5 h. The slurry is aged at room temperature for 2 h, cooled to 10°C, aged for 0.5 h and the solid is filtered. The cake is washed with 320 mL of water, suction dried under nitrogen at room temperature for 2 h and oven dried under house vacuum (-24 psi) at <60°C for 12 h to afford 54.3 g of imidazole 4 as a white solid (HPLC assay: 98.8 A%, 97.2 W%, overall yield: 92.4%, 0.5 W% of the regioisomer).

EXAMPLE 23

2-n-Butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-methanol

I. Catalyst Preparation

Triphenylphosphine (262 mg, 1.0 mmol) is dissolved in THF (20 mL) and the solution is degassed by

vacuum/nitrogen purges (3X). Palladium acetate (56 mg, 0.25 mmol) is added and the solution is degassed again (3X). The resulting solution is warmed to 60°C for 30 min. and then cooled to 25°C.

5

II. Coupling

Note: All solvents must be degassed.

2-(2'-triphenylmethyl-2'H-tetrazol-5'-yl)phenylboronic acid (15.4 g, 26.7 mmol, 75 wt % pure) is suspended in diethoxymethane (DEM) (80 mL, KF \leq 500 mg/ml). Water (0.55 mL, 31 mmol) is added and the slurry is aged at ambient temperature for 30 min. After the age, another charge of water (0.55 mL, 31 mmol) is added to the boronic acid suspension under agitation. The slurry is then treated with powdered potassium carbonate (8.6 g, 62 mmol) and alkylated imidazole, the titled product of Example 22 (8.97 g, 25 mmol). The mixture is aged at 20-25°C for 30 min then degassed well (3X). (Note: in the pilot plant, degassing takes much longer and can be started immediately after the imidazole and carbonate are added). The catalyst solution is then charged and the mixture is heated to reflux (76-79°C). The reaction is complete in 2-6 hours. When the imidazole has been consumed, water (30 mL) and THF (25 mL) are added and the mixture is stirred at 55-60°C. The water layer is separated and the organic layer is washed with water (30 mL). The organic layer is concentrated in vacuo to a volume of 50 mL to remove most of the THF. More DEM (50 mL) is added and removed by distillation to further reduce THF to \leq 5 vol %. The residual organic solution is diluted with warm (60°C) DEM (to a final volume of 75 mL) and water (0.5 mL, 28 mmol). The mixture is then cooled slowly to

- 12°C over 2 hours. After aging at -12°C for 1 hour, the product is collected by filtration. The cake is washed with cold DEM (25 mL). Vacuum drying at 40°C gave 15.5 g (93% of the titled product (non-solvated)).
- 5 [Pd = 600 to 1000 ppm.]

EXAMPLE 24

- 2-n-Butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-
10 biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-methanol

I. Catalyst preparation

- Triphenylphosphine (262 mg, 1.0 mmol) is dissolved in THF (20 mL) and the solution is degassed by vacuum/nitrogen purges (3X). Palladium acetate (56 mg,
15 0.25 mmol) is added and the solution is degassed again (3X). The resulting solution is warmed to 60°C for 30 min. and then cooled to 25°C.

II. Coupling

- 20 Note: All solvents must be degassed.
- 2-(2'-Triphenylmethyl-2'H-tetrazol-5'-yl)phenylboronic acid (15.4 g, 26.7 mmol, 75 wt % pure) is suspended in diethoxymethane (DEM) (80 mL, KF ≤ 500 mg/mL). Water (0.55 mL, 31 mmol) is added and the
25 slurry is aged at ambient temperature for 30 min. After the age, another charge of water (0.55 mL, 31 mmol) is added to the boronic acid suspension under agitation. The slurry is then treated with powdered potassium carbonate (8.6 g, 62 mmol) and the titled product of
30 Example 22, the alkylated imidazole (8.97 g, 25 mmol). The mixture is aged at 20-25°C for 30 min then degassed well (3X). (Note: in the pilot plant, degassing takes much longer and can be started immediately after the

imidazole and carbonate are added). The catalyst solution is then charged and the mixture is heated to reflux (76-79°C). The reaction is complete in 2-6 hours. When the imidazole has been consumed, water (30 mL) and THF (25 mL) are added and the mixture is stirred at 55-60°C. The water layer is separated and the organic layer is washed with water (30 mL). Tributylphosphine (0.62 mL, 10 mol %) is added and the organic layer is concentrated in vacuo to a volume of 50 mL to remove most of the THF. More DEM (50 mL) is added and removed by distillation to further reduce THF to ≤ 5 vol %. The residual organic solution is diluted with warm (60°C) DEM (to a final volume of 75 mL) and water (0.5 mL, 28 mmol). The mixture is then cooled slowly to -12°C over 2 hours. After aging at -12°C for 1 hour, the product is collected by filtration. The cake is washed with cold DEM (25 mL). Vacuum drying at 40°C gave 15.5 g (93%) of the titled product (non-solvated). [Pd ≤ 10 ppm].

20

EXAMPLE 25

2-n-Butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(2-triphenylmethyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-methanol as the methyl isobutyl ketone solvate

25 A suspension of the titled product of Example 24 (5 g) in methyl isobutyl ketone (MIBK) (40 mL) is degassed (3X) and tributylphosphine (0.12 g, 8 mol %) is added. The mixture is heated to 85°C at which time a homogeneous solution was obtained. Degassed water (0.135 g, 100 mol %) is then added and the solution is cooled to -10°C over 2 hours. The heterogeneous solution is aged at -10°C for 2 hours, the crystallized product is collected by filtration and washed with cold

30

MIBK (-10°C, 15 ml). The recovery was 5.40 g of the titled product (93.9 %, as the MIBK solvate).

EXAMPLE 26

5 2-n-butyl-4-chloro-1-[(2'-(tetrazol-5-yl)-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-methyl]-1H-imidazole-5-methanol, potassium salt

I. Deprotection

Dissolve 2.50 g of the titled product of Example 25, the methyl isobutyl ketone solvate, by adding 10 mL
10 of 0.75 M H₂SO₄ in 50:50 MeCN:water. Age 2 hours 25 min, 23-25°C. Add 15 mL of water in 2 min (can be added in 30 min to an hour in larger scales), and age 1.75 hours, 23-25°C. Filter and wash with 5 mL of 20:80 MeCN:water. There was almost no starting material left
15 in the trityl alcohol filter cake (<0.05 area%).

II. Free Acid Formation

Dilute the above filtrate with 13 mL of MeCN. The pH of the solution is 1.50. The temperature of the
20 solution following neutralization and crystallization was 22-24°C. After adding 1.5 mL of 3 N NaOH (pH 1.75-1.65), the reaction is seeded with 20 mg of the free acid. Age 15 min. Slowly add the next 1 mL of 3 M NaOH to allow for good crystal growth (on this scale, the
25 addition time was 5-10 min). Age 30 min. Add the remaining 3 M NaOH (pH 3.60-3.50). Age 1 hour. The white slurry is filtered and washed with 5 mL of 20:80 MeCN:water then 10 mL of water. A thorough water wash of the free acid filter cake is necessary to remove all
30 the salts. The wash can be checked for SO₄⁻². The filter cake is dried in a vacuum oven at 35°C for 18 hours with nitrogen purge. The yield of the free acid

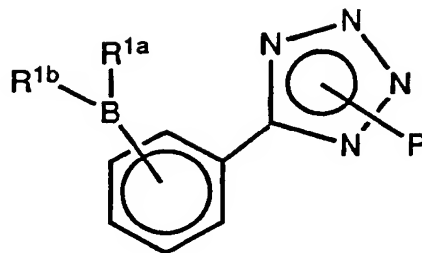
was 1.28 g (92.5%) and there was 54 mg (4%) of the free acid in the mother liquors.

III. Salt Formation

5 To 4.0 g (9.46 mmoles) of the free acid is added
10.9 ml of 0.842 N KOH solution all in one portion. The
slurry is aged at room temperature for 30 minutes,
during which time most of the solid dissolves. The
cloudy solution is filtered and the solids collected on
10 a sintered glass funnel. The pH of the filtrate is
measured at 9.05. The aqueous solution is added slowly
to a refluxing azeotropic mixture of
cyclohexane/isopropanol (69°C) whereupon the ternary
azeotrope cyclohexane/isopropanol/water (64°C) begins to
15 distill. When the solution is dry the temperature of
the overhead rises to 69° and the potassium salt
crystallizes. When the water content of the pot is
<0.05% the distillation is halted and the white slurry
is cooled to room temperature. The white crystalline
20 solid is collected on a sintered glass funnel and washed
with 10-15 ml of cyclohexane/isopropanol 67/33 and dried
in a vacuum oven (wt 3.8 g yield 95%).

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of formula I



wherein:

P is triphenylmethyl, tertiary-butyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxymethyl, methylthiomethyl, phenyl C₁-C₄ alkoxymethyl, p-methoxybenzyl, 2,4,6-trimethylbenzyl, 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyl, tetrahydropyranyl, piperonyl, or benzenesulfonyl; and

R^{1a} and R^{1b} are each independently chlorine, bromine, C₁-C₄ alkoxy or hydroxy; and

R^{1a} and R^{1b} can be taken together with B to form a

cyclic structure where A is phenyl, or (CH₂)_n, where n is 2-4.

2. A compound of claim 1 wherein R^{1a} and R^{1b} are hydroxyl.

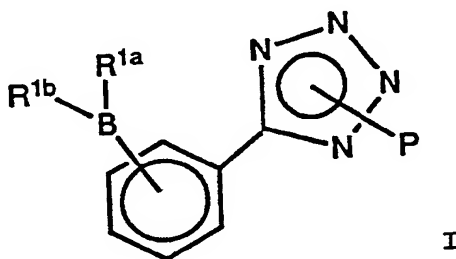
3. A compound of claim 1 wherein P is a triphenyl methyl.

4. A compound of claim 1 which is 2-(2'-
triphenylmethyl-2'H-tetrazol-5'-yl)phenylboronic acid.

5. A compound of claim 1 which is 3-(2'-
triphenylmethyl-2'H-tetrazol-5'-yl)phenylboronic acid.

6. A compound of claim 1 which is 4-(2'-
triphenylmethyl-2'H-tetrazol-5'-yl)phenylboronic acid.

7. A process for preparing a compound of formula
I

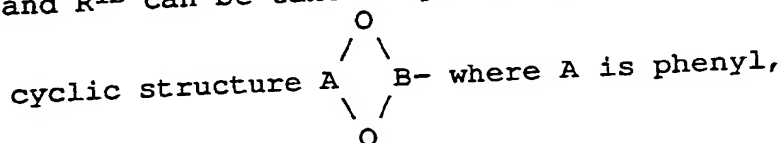


wherein:

P is triphenylmethyl, tertiary-butyl, C₁-C₄
alkoxymethyl, methylthiomethyl, phenyl C₁-C₄
alkoxymethyl, p-methoxybenzyl, 2,4,6-
trimethylbenzyl, 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyl,
tetrahydropyranyl, piperonyl, or benzenesulfonyl;
and

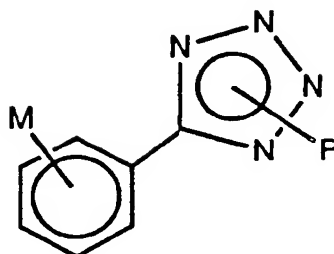
R_{1a} and R_{1b} are each independently chlorine, bromine,
C₁-C₄ alkoxy or hydroxy; and

R_{1a} and R_{1b} can be taken together with B to form a



or (CH₂)_n, where n is 2-4,

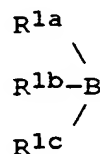
comprising reacting in an inert atmosphere a carbanion having the formula



wherein:

P is defined as above; and

- 5 M is a metal selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, or magnesium with a boron compound having the formula



wherein

R^{1a} and R^{1b} are as above, and

- 10 R^{1c} is chlorine, bromine or C₁₋₄ alkoxy in an aprotic solvent at a temperature ranging from -70°C to 25°C.

8. The process of claim 7 wherein P
15 triphenylmethyl.

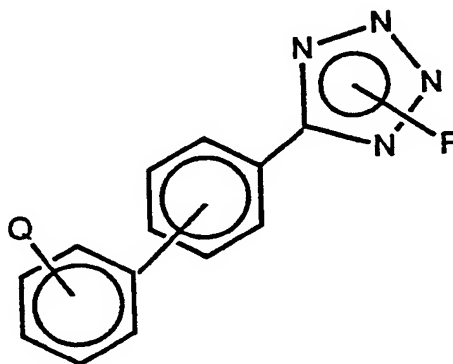
9. The process of claim 7 wherein R^{1a}, R^{1b} and R^{1c} are isopropoxyl.

10. The process of claim 8 wherein B and M are, respectively, in the meta position and M is lithium.

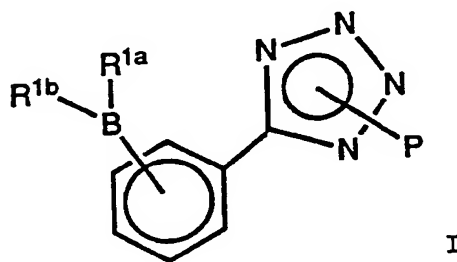
11. The process of claim 9 wherein B and M are, respectively, in the meta position and M is lithium.

12. The process of claim 11 wherein P is triphenylmethyl.

10 13. A process for preparing a compound of formula II



which comprises reacting a compound of formula I



wherein:

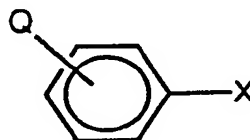
P is triphenylmethyl, tertiary-butyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxymethyl, methylthiomethyl, phenyl C₁-C₄ alkoxymethyl, p-methoxybenzyl, 2,4,6-trimethylbenzyl, 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyl, tetrahydropyranyl, piperonyl, or benzenesulfonyl; and

R^{1a} and R^{1b} are each independently chlorine, bromine, C₁-C₄ alkoxy or hydroxy; and

R^{1a} and R^{1b} can be taken together with B to form

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{O} \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \text{A} \quad \text{B-} \\ \backslash \quad / \\ \text{O} \end{array}$$

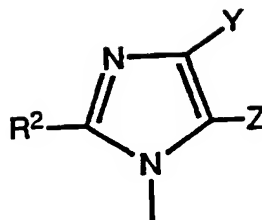
a structure A B- where A is phenyl, or (CH₂)_n, where n is 2-4, with an electrophile having the formula



wherein

X is bromine, iodine, methanesulfonyloxy, toluenesulfonyloxy, fluorosulfonyloxy, or trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy; and

Q is hydrogen, methyl, C₁-C₄ alkyl, hydroxymethyl, triorganosilyloxymethyl, hydroxy C₁-C₄ alkyl, formyl, C₁-C₄ acyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy carbonyl, or W-L- wherein L is a single bond, -(CH₂)_t- where t is 1 to 4, -(CH₂)_rO(CH₂)_r-, -(CH₂)_rS(O)_r(CH₂)_r-, where r is 0 to 2 and W is



wherein

R² is C₁-C₄ alkyl, Y is C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ perfluoroalkyl, halogen, phenyl unsubstituted or substituted with one or two substituents selected from C₁-C₄ alkyl, F, Cl, CF₃, C₁-C₄ alkoxyl, alkoxyl, phenoxy, phenyl; phenyl C₁-C₄ alkyl and Z is hydroxymethyl, formyl, C₁-C₄ acyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxycarbonyl, carboxyl; and

wherein

Y and Z can be taken to form a 5-, 6-, or 7-membered ring containing 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, sulfur, or oxygen,

in the presence of a metal catalyst, a base and a coupling solvent for one to thirty hours at a temperature ranging from room temperature to 150°C.

14. The process of Claim 13 wherein the metal catalyst is selected from the group consisting of: nickel complex, palladium complex or platinum complex.

15. The process of Claim 14 wherein the metal catalyst is a palladium complex selected from bis(dibenzylideneacetone)palladium(0),

tris(dibenzylideneacetone)dipalladium(0),
tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) or a
phosphinated palladium(II) complex.

- 5 16. The process of claim 15 wherein the palladium
complex is a phosphinated palladium II complex selected
from the group consisting of:
bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium chloride,
bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium bromide,
10 bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium acetate,
bis(triisopropylphosphite)palladium chloride,
bis(triisopropylphosphite)palladium bromide,
bis(triisopropylphosphite)palladium acetate,
[1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane]palladium chloride,
15 [1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane]palladium bromide,
[1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane]palladium acetate,
[1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane]palladium chloride,
[1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane]palladium bromide,
[1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane]palladium acetate,
20 [1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane]palladium chloride,
[1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane]palladium bromide and
[1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane]palladium acetate.

17. The process of Claim 15 wherein the palladium
25 complex is generated in the reaction mixture in the
presence of a catalyst forming solvent.

18. The process of Claim 17 wherein the catalyst
forming solvent(s) is(are) selected from the group
30 consisting of: benzene, toluene, ethyl ether,
tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, acetonitrile,
dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide, dimethyl

sulfoxide, ethanol, methanol, propanol, water, 2-methyl-tetrahydrofuran and diethoxymethane.

19. The process of Claim 18 wherein the catalyst
5 forming solvent is tetrahydrofuran.

20. The process of Claim 18 wherein the catalyst
forming solvent is toluene.

10 21. The process of Claim 15 wherein the palladium
complex is tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(O).

15 22. The process of Claim 18 wherein
tetrakis(triphenyl phosphine)palladium(O), is generated
in the reaction mixture by contacting a complex of
tris(dibenzylideneacetone)dipalladium(O) and
triphenylphosphine.

20 23. The process of Claim 16 wherein
bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium chloride is generated
in the reaction mixture by contacting palladium chloride
and triphenylphosphine in tetrahydrofuran.

25 24. The process of Claim 19 wherein
tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium (O) is generated
in the reaction mixture by contacting palladium
chloride, triphenylphosphine and diethylzinc in
tetrahydrofuran.

30 25. The process of Claim 19 wherein
bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium acetate is generated in
the reaction mixture by contacting palladium acetate and

triphenylphosphine in the catalyst forming solvent with heat.

26. The process of Claim 13 wherein the base is
5 selected from: an organic tertiary non-nucleophilic base, an inorganic base and an organic solvent soluble base.

27. The process of Claim 26 wherein the organic
10 tertiary non-nucleophilic base is selected from the group consisting of triethylamine or diisopropylethylamine.

28. The process of Claim 26 wherein the inorganic
15 base is selected from potassium carbonate, sodium carbonate, cesium carbonate, thallium hydroxide, potassium alkoxide and sodium alkoxide.

29. The process of Claim 26 wherein the organic
20 solvent soluble base is selected from the group consisting of: tetra-n-butylammonium carbonate, tetra-n-butylammonium hydroxide, benzyltrimethylammonium carbonate, benzyltrimethylammonium methyl carbonate, benzyltrimethylammonium methoxide, and
25 benzyltrimethylammonium hydroxide.

30. The process of Claim 27 wherein the organic tertiary non-nucleophilic base is triethylamine.

30 31. The process of Claim 28 wherein the inorganic base is potassium carbonate.

32. The process of Claim 29 wherein the organic solvent soluble base is tetra-n-butylammonium carbonate which is generated in the reaction mixture by reacting potassium carbonate with tetra-n-butylammonium bromide in the presence of toluene-water.

33. The process of Claim 29 wherein the organic solvent soluble base is benzyltrimethylammonium carbonate which is generated in the reaction mixture by reacting benzyltrimethylammonium hydroxide with ammonium carbonate in the presence of methanol.

34. The process of Claim 29 wherein the organic solvent soluble base is tetra-n-butylammonium carbonate.

35. The process of Claim 29 wherein the organic solvent soluble base is benzyltrimethylammonium carbonate.

36. The process of Claim 13 wherein the coupling solvent(s) is(are) selected from the group consisting of: benzene, toluene, ethyl ether, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, acetonitrile, dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide, ethanol, methanol, propanol, water, 2-methyl-tetrahydrofuran and diethoxymethane.

37. The process of Claim 36 wherein the coupling solvent is a mixture of tetrahydrofuran and diethoxymethane.

38. The process of Claim 36 wherein the coupling solvent is toluene.

39. The process of Claim 13 wherein P is triphenylmethyl, and the electrophile is 1-bromo-4-(2'-butyl-4'-chloro-5'-formyl-imidazole-1'H-1'-yl)methylbenzene.

5

40. The process of Claim 13 wherein P is triphenylmethyl, and the electrophile is 1-bromo-4-(2'-butyl-4'-chloro-5'-hydroxymethylimidazole-1'H-1'-yl)methylbenzene.

10

41. The process of Claim 13 wherein P is triphenylmethyl, and the electrophile is 1-bromo-4-(2'-propyl-4'-ethyl-5'-formyl-imidazole-1'H-1'-yl)methylbenzene.

15

42. The process of Claim 13 wherein P is triphenylmethyl, and the electrophile is 1-bromo-4-(2'-propyl-4'-pentafluoroethyl-5'-methoxycarbonylimidazole-1'H-1'-yl)methylbenzene.

20

43. The process of Claim 13 wherein P is triphenylmethyl, and the electrophile is 1-bromo-4-(2'-propyl-4'-ethyl-5'-ethoxyl-carbonylimidazole-1'H-1'-yl)methylbenzene.

25

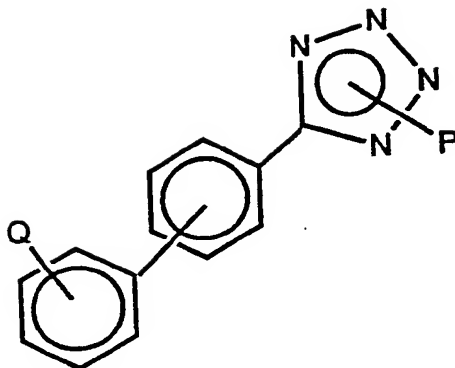
44. The process of Claim 13 wherein P is triphenylmethyl, and Q is hydroxymethyl.

30

45. The process of Claim 13 wherein P is triphenylmethyl, and Q is formyl.

46. The process of Claim 13 which comprises recrystallizing the compound of the formula II

48



II

with a recrystallization solvent.

5 47. The process of Claim 46 where the
 recrystallization solvent is methyl isobutyl ketone.

 48. The process of Claim 13 which further
 comprises a purification step.

10 49. The process of Claim 48 wherein the
 purification step includes tri[(C₁-C₈) alkyl]phosphine.

 50. The process of Claim 49 wherein the
15 purification step includes tributylphosphine.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US92/09979

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(5) :C07D 257/02

US CL :548/110

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 548/110

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	CA 98=891409 (Scherowsky et al.) Reactions of heterocyclic onium salts with electronrich multiple bond systems. p.537, 1983.	1-50

☐

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐

See patent family annex.

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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search

05 MARCH 1993

Date of mailing of the international search report

10 MAR 1993

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